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THE WORLD OVER

LATEST NEWS FROM EVERY LAND.

FIRE IN THE CAPITOL

IRREPARABLE DAMAGE DONE TO OLD DOCUMENTS

Gas Explosion and a Resultant Fire Wreck the Supreme Court Quarters and Rooms Adjoining on the Main Floor—Other Items.

Old Records Lost.

An explosion and fire at 5:15 o'clock Sunday afternoon wrecked the supreme court room and the rooms immediately adjoining it on the main floor of the capitol in Washington. The damage is enormous. The entire central eastern part of the great marble pile, from the main floor to the subterranean basement, practically is a mass of ruins. Fire followed the explosion so quickly as to seem simultaneous with it. The explosion occurred in a small room tightly enclosed by heavy stone walls in the subterranean basement immediately below the main entrance to the old capitol building. In this room was a 500-light gas meter, which was fed by a 4-inch main. Very little gas is used in that part of the building, but at the time of the explosion the gas had not been turned off at the meter. The meter itself was wrecked, and the gas pouring from the main caught fire. Before the flames could be subdued the priceless documents in the record room of the supreme court had been almost destroyed, and serious damage had been done in the marshal's office and some minor rooms in the immediate vicinity.

The library of the supreme court, located immediately below the supreme court room, was badly damaged by fire, smoke and water, practically destroying the great collection of law reference books. The library contains about 23,000 volumes, and was used not only by the justices of the supreme court, but by members of congress and lawyers practicing before the supreme court.

Justice Harlan said that the library was very valuable. Many of the works it contained would, he thought, be difficult to replace. Librarian Clarke, after a cursory examination, necessarily made by the light of lanterns, expressed the opinion that many of the books could be saved, although they had been badly drenched by water. The most serious damage, in the opinion of the justices of the supreme court, is to the records stored in the sub-basement. These include all of the records of the supreme court from 1792 to 1882.

MARIA TERESA LOST.

Resurrected Flagship Goes Down to Rise No More.

The ocean tug Merritt arrived at Charleston, N. C., Sunday morning for supplies and reported the loss of the cruiser Maria Teresa off Salvador, Bahamas, November 1, in a storm. The Maria Teresa was sunk by American warships near Santiago July 3 with the rest of Cervera's fleet, and was raised by Lieut. Hobson and started for Norfolk, Va., to be repaired. She left Calmanera, Cuba, October 3. She had already passed Cape Mayai and started northeast around the Bahamas. A furious storm, warning of which had been sent out overtook her and she was unable to weather it. The strain opened the rents in the hull which had been patched to enable her to make the journey, and she began to fill rapidly. The Merritt took off Capt. Harris and the crew, and she went down. The Merritt brought in the captain and 196 men. No lives were lost.

FOURTEEN WORKMEN KILLED

Half Finished Wonderland Theater Collapses in Detroit.

The new five-story Wonderland Theater building in Detroit, Mich., is in a hopeless looking state of collapse, and fourteen lives have been sacrificed by an appalling accident which occurred therein. Saturday afternoon shortly before 2 o'clock, while some thirty-five men were at work in various parts of the half-finished theater, portions of its roof fell in without warning. Nearly every workman was carried down into the theater pit; the top gallery was crushed down on the lower gallery, forming a sort of fatal hillside down which slid broken steel girders, planks, timbers, brick and a great quantity of cement from the roof, and carrying along a struggling company of men into the pit below, very few of whom escaped injury.

Negro Lynched in Florida.

Arthur Williams, a negro under arrest for the murder of Miss Elina Ogden, at Welbourne, Fla., on Friday, made a confession Saturday night, implicating two other negroes, Buck James and Monroe Leggett. At 11 o'clock Sunday night the constable and his guards were overpowered by a crowd and Williams was taken from their custody, riddled with bullets and a fire built upon his body.

New Japanese Cabinet.

Field Marshal Marquis Yamagata has formed a ministry to succeed the cabinet of Count Okuma Sagami—the first party cabinet in the history of Japan—which took office on June 28 last and resigned on October 31, owing to the differences upon the question of filling the portfolio of public instruction.

FRIDAY'S JOINT SESSION.

United States' Proposition Rejected by the Spaniards.

The joint sessions of the peace commissions in Paris Friday lasted two hours. The Spaniards refused to meet the propositions made by the Americans Monday last, but the negotiations were not broken off. While it is believed no formal counter proposition was made, there was discussion of the Philippine question outside the lines of the American propositions. The commissions then adjourned till November 7. There is no truth in the statements made that an ultimatum is contemplated by the United States and there is no probability of drastic measures being taken by the Americans. The Americans expect to patiently weigh all the points involved and carefully consider the arguments of the Spaniards.

The administration in Washington is awaiting results from the peace commission with equanimity in the realization that the government is perfectly well prepared for any turn negotiations may take. The navy especially is in a state of preparedness should it come to a resumption of hostilities far in advance of its condition at the outbreak of the war. As far as the army is concerned, while the original force of nearly 250,000 has been largely diminished by the mustering out of the many regiments and organizations, it is the opinion of expert military officers that the army as a whole is really a more formidable weapon now than at any period during the war. In fact, all branches of the military and naval service have profited by the experience of the war, and are now, as previously stated, in better shape than ever before.

WILL MARRY AGAIN.

Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria to Take Another Wife.

Direct from Austrian court circles comes the sensational announcement that the Austrian emperor, Francis Joseph, contemplates a second marriage as soon as the time of official court mourning has expired. The archduchess, Maria Theresia, daughter of Don Miguel, is said to find most favor in his majesty's eyes and stands the best chance of mounting the Austrian throne. The prospective hasty marriage is the result of a desire for a direct heir to the Austrian throne and all friends of the emperor are urging him to take the contemplated step. In fact, the future union and peace of the country depends upon the successor of Francis Joseph, who himself has had all he could do to handle the rebellious provinces. The future empress is attractive and exceedingly ambitious.

SOUDAN HERO HONORED.

Gen. Kitchener Receives a Great Ovation in London.

The streets of London were crowded Friday morning by an immense number of people seeking to witness Gen. Kitchener's triumphal progress to Guild Hall, to receive the freedom of the city and the sword of honor presented him in recognition of his defeat of the dervishes at Omdurman. The general received a great ovation as he drove through the streets.

WAR CLOUDS FLOAT AWAY.

Semi-Official Note Says France Will Yield to Britain.

A semi-official note issued Friday evening in Paris says the French government has resolved not to retain the Marchand mission at Fashoda, adding that "the decision was arrived at after an exhaustive examination of the question."

Attempts to Shoot His Wife.

J. K. Hardy of Kansas City and St. Louis attempted to shoot his wife at Wichita, Kan., but was prevented by a waiter and Detective Sutton. He is in jail, held on the charge of assault with intent to kill. The wife lives at Arkansas City, and the husband's grievance is that she refuses to live with him.

Cuba to Have Thanksgiving Day.

General Wood at Santiago is preparing a Thanksgiving proclamation, being of the opinion that the Cubans ought to give thanks for the blessings they have received. The Americans want to keep the day in old-fashioned style and are writing to their friends in the north to send on turkeys.

Liquidating Standard Oil Trust.

The liquidation trustees of the Standard Oil trust have recently divided from the income of the corporate stocks still remaining in their hands, a sum equal to \$3 per share, and a further sum equal to \$4 per share, both payable December 15, 1898.

Chicago Banks Consolidate.

The Bank of Commerce of Chicago, a state bank with \$500,000 capital and \$1,000,000 deposits, has voted to go into voluntary liquidation. Its deposits and equal amounts of bills receivable will be taken over by the Union National.

Buffalo Sails for Philippines.

The Thomson Wagon factory at St. Louis park, a suburb of Minneapolis, has burned to the ground with seven loaded freight cars. The factory had just been leased by Lindsay Bros. Loss, \$60,000.

Two Killed and a Dozen Hurt.

By an explosion in the Oil City, Pa., boiler works, Charles McCloskey and John Frawley were killed, B. J. Giddens and Dennis McMahon fatally hurt and a dozen others slightly injured.

FLOWERS FOR MAINE VICTIMS

Graceful Act of Cubans in Preparing Floral Cross.

General Wade and General Butler of the United States evacuation commission went to the Colon Cemetery in Havana Thursday morning to lay flowers on the graves of the victims of the Maine disaster. In the course of the afternoon a number of other officers visited the cemetery. Just after Gen. Wade and Butler had left the Hotel Trocha for the cemetery, carrying the floral cross made by the committee of young Cuban girls who had asked the privilege of paying this tribute to the dead a carriage was driven up to the hotel with representatives of the Cuban Club, who brought an immense floral cross to lay upon the grave. On learning that Generals Wade and Butler had already gone to the cemetery the Cubans followed and overtook them in time to place both offerings together.

PANAMA IS SAFE.

Transport Steamer Reported Lost Stops at Havana.

The transport Panama, from Santiago, fears for whose safety have been entertained, arrived at Havana Thursday morning. The Panama landed seven American passengers, including some military officers.

The party landed includes Congressman John F. Dalzell, J. F. Slagle, E. M. Gross, J. R. Savage, Jr., C. S. Burgesman, ex-Congressman George F. Huff and W. L. Howes. They have just visited Ponce, San Juan de Porto Rico and Santiago de Cuba. The Panama acted upon the orders of Gen. Wood in landing the American officers at Havana. They expected to take the next Tampa boat on their way to Washington. The Panama did not encounter any bad weather.

KRUPP PLATE RECEIVES A TEST

Withstands Perfectly the Impact of a 253-Pound Projectile.

Armor plate manufactured by the Krupp process was given its first test Thursday by the Bethlehem Iron Company at its proving grounds near Bethlehem, Pa. Many notable engineers witnessed it, besides the Russian ordnance engineer, who came from Philadelphia. It was the first test of Krupp armor of American make and was a great success. Three shots were fired from an 8-inch gun, the projectiles weighing 253 pounds and the velocity ranging from sixteen to eighteen hundred feet per second. The plate was not cracked. The Bethlehem Company has received a big order for this make of plate from Russia.

Passenger Steamer Destroyed.

The passenger steamer Pacific, owned by the Great Northern Transit Company, burned at the Grand Trunk wharves in Collinwood, Ont. The railway freight sheds, filled with Canadian and American goods, were also destroyed. The Pacific was valued at \$65,000 and was insured for \$25,000. The loss from the burning of the freight sheds will be very heavy.

Last of Williams Gang Arrested.

Paul Andrews, who killed Bill Nave over a year ago, has been captured after a hard fight with marshals near Vinita, I. T. Andrews was injured seriously while resisting. He was once leader of the Williams gang of outlaws, all of whom have been killed in resisting arrest.

Trust Raises Price of Envelopes.

Evidence that the long threatened trust among the manufacturers of envelopes has become a fact has reached the paper stationery trade in the shape of circulars quoting an advance averaging 25 per cent. in all grades of envelopes.

Large Manufactory Burned.

The works of the National Starch Company at Glencove, L. I., were visited by a disastrous fire last Friday.

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$6.00; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, fair to choice, \$2.50 to \$4.75; wheat, No. 2, red, 66c to 67c; corn, No. 2, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 51c to 52c; butter, choice creamery, 21c to 23c; eggs, fresh, 17c to 18c; potatoes, choice, 30c to 40c per bushel.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$5.50; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, common to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2, red, 67c to 69c; corn, No. 2, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2, 25c to 27c; rye, No. 2, 51c to 52c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.75; hogs, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep, \$3.50 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 67c to 70c; corn, No. 2, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2, 25c to 27c; rye, No. 2, 51c to 52c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2, 67c to 69c; corn, No. 2, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2, 25c to 27c; rye, No. 2, 51c to 52c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.50; hogs, \$3.25 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2, 71c to 73c; corn, No. 2, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2, 25c to 27c; rye, No. 2, 51c to 52c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2, mixed, 70c to 72c; corn, No. 2, mixed, 32c to 34c; oats, No. 2, white, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 52c to 54c; clover seed, old, \$4.75 to \$4.85.

Waukegan—Wheat, No. 2, spring, 66c to 67c; corn, No. 3, 32c to 34c; oats, No. 2, white, 25c to 28c; rye, No. 1, 51c to 53c; barley, No. 2, 46c to 48c; pork, mess, \$7.50 to \$8.00.

Buffalo—Cattle, good shipping steers, \$3.00 to \$5.75; hogs, common to choice, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep, fair to choice wethers, \$3.50 to \$5.00; lambs, common to extra, \$5.00 to \$5.75.

New York—Cattle, \$2.00 to \$5.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, red, 76c to 77c; corn, No. 2, 33c to 41c; oats, No. 2, 29c to 30c; butter, creamery, 15c to 24c; eggs, Western, 20c to 22c.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Two Saunders County Farmers Engage in a Quarrel in which a Gun Is Used—Warrant Out Charging One With Intent to Murder.

Two Farmers Quarrel.

James Delaney and Pat Donnelly, both of Saunders County, had a fight at the Cullins farm, near Cedar Bluffs, which came near terminating fatally. Donnelly says they got into a quarrel over some small matter and Delaney pulled a gun and fired directly at him, but doing no damage. A struggle then ensued. The affair took place in a room at the farm house and the people present left for safety quarters as soon as the first shot was fired, leaving the two men to fight it out. Donnelly, who is a large, powerful fellow, finally wrenched the gun from Delaney's hands and threw him. He then took from him a large, ugly looking knife and, leaving him in charge of parties at the house, went to Cedar Bluffs and swore out a warrant for Delaney's arrest on the charge of assault with intent to murder. The two men were under the influence of liquor and had previously had some little difficulty.

THOSE CHRISTMAS BOXES.

Soldiers in Far Off Manila Bound to Be Remembered.

There is an apparent conflict of authority between the state administration and the G. A. R. over the question of which shall send the Christmas boxes to the Nebraska soldiers. So far as can be learned the movement was started by General Gage and other Grand Army men and a few days later was taken up by the state officials. General Gage obtained a promise from the government that the boxes would be shipped from San Francisco by the war department. General Barry soon after received a similar assurance. Gage then made arrangements whereby the boxes were to be shipped free from Lincoln, and directed that all boxes should be sent to him at Lincoln for shipment. A few days later Barry issued notice that the state would stand the expense of the shipment of the boxes from Lincoln to San Francisco, "the government having refused to do so." He has issued an order that all boxes should be shipped to him. It is a most peculiar situation, but it seems that in any event the boys are to get the boxes.

RAILROAD IS BEATEN.

Nebraska Supreme Court Decision in a Tax Case.

The right of a city or town to assess an occupation tax on a railroad corporation has been sustained by the supreme court, which holds that such a levy is not in violation of the interstate commerce law nor void because it taxes a business transacted wholly within the city. It was a suit of the city of York against the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. The road fought the ordinance and was sustained by the lower court. The supreme court reverses and remands. The ordinance expressly exempts interstate business from taxation.

May Secure Exposition Organ.

A project is under way at Lincoln to purchase the great concert organ, built for the exposition, for use in the chapel of the University of Nebraska. It is not thought advisable to ask the state for an appropriation at this time and an effort will be made to buy the instrument with money contributed by alumni and former students. A committee of six alumni has been appointed and will undertake the task of raising the amount. It is intended to christen the new acquisition the "Alumni Organ" in case its purchase can be brought about.

Supreme Court Decisions.

The supreme court in session at Lincoln handed down a number of decisions, among them being affirmations in the cases of Stevens, the Sheridan County cattle stealer, and Chezem of Adams County, who was sentenced by the district court for larceny. A case brought up from York County is decided, giving cities of the second class the right to levy an occupation tax against railroad companies where the lines of the company enter the city limits.

Postmaster Gets in Trouble.

Z. E. Minnick, postmaster at Millikin, Frontier County, was arrested by Deputy United States Marshal Keim on a charge of embezzlement of funds of the government to the amount of \$449. On being arraigned before United States Commissioner J. E. Cobbe at Beatrice he waived examination and was bound over to the federal court. As he was unable to secure bondmen he was taken to Omaha.

Many Nebraska Men Sick.

Colonel John P. Pratt of the First Nebraska regiment, who has been honorably discharged on account of illness, says that 15 per cent. of the Nebraska troops in Manila are sick. Many of them are ill with dysentery because of their indiscretion in drinking the vile soda pop and eating half rotten bananas that the natives sell on the streets.

Omaha Offutt Accidents.

Charles Offutt, a well known Omaha attorney, while suffering from the effects of a long illness, shot himself through the head at his home in that city. Mr. Offutt had suffered from nervous prostration for more than a year and had been so ill at times that his life was despaired of.

Prominent Omaha Man Dead.

Champion Spalding Chase, who was recently appointed surveyor of customs for the port of Omaha, died recently from the effects of a fall received two weeks ago on the customs house steps. He was a cousin of Salmon P. Chase.

Supreme Court Adjourns.

The supreme court adjourned at Lincoln without having taken action on the Bartley bond case or the motion in the Broatch-Moore case.

DESERTED BY HIS BRIDE.

Lacy Trusts a Matrimonial Bureau and Lives to Repent.

Through the agency of a matrimonial bureau Patrick Lacy of Harrison, aged 43 years, and Mrs. Maggie Schooley, aged 38, of Marion, Ohio, were united in marriage a few days since. After having enjoyed the companionship of her newly found husband two nights and one day Mrs. Lacy tired of the matrimonial venture and Lacy has now lost his bride, who left, together with her little daughter, for her Ohio home. Gross misrepresentations on the part of both parties in the case resulted in the marriage being a decidedly unhappy union, and Lacy does not regret his wife's early departure. It is stated that Lacy represented to Mrs. Schooley that he was a wealthy cattle ranchman, owning a large ranch in Sioux City, but when she arrived on the scene she discovered her intended to be a day laborer with small means. Lacy, in turn, discovered that the woman, who had claimed to have several thousand dollars in her own right, had barely enough money in her possession to purchase a ticket home, so the match was broken with but little sorrow on the part of the two interested parties.

SLEEP THE SLEEP OF BRAVE

Three Nebraska Boys Succumb to Disease in Philippines.

The following cable was received at the war department from Gen. Otis at Manila, announcing the following deaths since last report:

Earl W. Osterhout, of David City, private, Company E, typhoid fever, October 27.

Alfred J. Elsbach, of Bennett, private, Company I, typhoid fever, October 22.

Arthur C. Stannus of Madison, private, Company E, acute diarrhoea, October 23.

Cause of the Wreck.

The east-bound train which was wrecked at Fremont a few days ago was in three sections. The special had orders to meet the first section at Valley and the second section at Fremont. The west-bound train met second section of No. 20 at Fremont, but evidently did not notice that it carried signals for another section, and the engineer on the second section of No. 20, it is stated, did not give the whistle signal calling the attention of the west bound train that another section was following. This would place the blame on the engineer and conductor of the second section of No. 20 and the engineer of the west-bound train.

Swindled by a Cattle Thief.

E. Sholtz, who lives nine miles southwest of Broken Bow, bought on October 24 sixty-five head of cattle of a stranger who said he was driving them through the country and gave his name as Wilkinson. Last week he was compelled to turn the cattle over to Mr. Plummer without expense, from whose range, on the Dismal, the cattle were stolen on the 22nd ult. Mr. Sholtz is out \$1,500 which he paid on the cattle. He admits that he was swindled, but hopes to catch the thief. There were two men with the cattle, but one had nothing to say and did not even give his name.

Murder in Omaha.

A drunken row in an Omaha saloon culminated in a stabbing affray in which J. R. Jones, the bartender, received a wound from the effects of which he died in less than five minutes. Two men were locked up in the city jail, as they were known to have been implicated in the affair. The names of the men arrested are S. J. Maher and William F. Grady, both being employed as machinists in the Union Pacific shops. Later the third man, George M. Chaffman, also a machinist, and who is supposed to have done the cutting, was apprehended by the police.

Two Suspicious Deaths.

People in and near Utica are excited over two deaths which recently occurred in that vicinity. Mrs. Gearhart Meiners, wife of a farmer living nine miles southwest of Utica, died on October 26, under somewhat suspicious circumstances. On October 28 Fritz Dohler, a man who had been working for the Meiners, went to Utica, where he was taken ill quite suddenly. The coroner is investigating.

New Bank for Neligh.

The officials of the First National Bank of O'Neill have arranged to open a bank in Neligh. It is hoped that the stockholders of the Neligh Bank will make the contemplated arrangement for the payment of depositors and either resume business or liquidate its indebtedness without severe financial loss. No statement of the condition of the closed bank has yet been made public.

Implement Warehouse Burned.

Fire in the implement building of J. C. Chaloupka at Tobias caused the complete destruction of that structure and its contents. Loss is as follows: J. C. Chaloupka, implements, \$2,200, insurance, \$1,500 in Crete Mutual; B. D. Howard, wagon shop, \$150, no insurance; J. M. Mecha, blacksmith, \$200, no insurance; Charles Buchtel, owner of building, \$1,600, insurance for \$800 in Queen. Cause of fire unknown.

Tragedy at Omaha.

Just before midnight on October 29 John Belick, a bricklayer, shot and killed Al Sergeant. Sergeant had gone to Belick's house for the purpose of eloping with Mrs. Belick, and had the woman's trunk in a wagon when the husband surprised him. Belick fired four shots, each taking effect. Belick and his wife are in jail.

Small Epidemic of Diphtheria.

There have been two deaths from diphtheria in the vicinity of Sterling and it has spread to five families. Very strict measures are being taken to arrest its spreading further, guards being stationed at the residences of those having the disease. The schools are closed and services discontinued at the churches.

Wild West's Suit.

A \$15,000 damage suit has been begun in Omaha by the Wild West show against the exposition for having allowed William F. Cody, Buffalo Bill, to bring his wild west show there and because of the Indian congress. Mattox & Root, the proprietors claim that it was contrary to the terms of their concession.



Although Admiral Sampson's report, sent through the press dispatches, does not contain a word of censure, criticism or complaint concerning the conduct of Admiral Schley, but simply gives the correspondence and orders in their sequence and allows the department and the public to judge it for themselves, it places the commander of the flying squadron in an embarrassing position, and explains why the Secretary of the Navy asked Congress not to pass resolutions conveying a vote of thanks to Admiral Schley. It also confirms the story telegraphed from St. Louis that Schley's fleet remained before the harbor of Cienfuegos for five days after he was informed that Cervera was in the harbor at Santiago, and that he started for Key West for coal, leaving Cervera free to go where he pleased until recalled by sharp orders from the Secretary of the Navy, who then placed Captain Sampson over his head.

Every year the heads of the great departments in Washington are having increased trouble with supernumerary clerks. Many of these clerks have been in public service from twenty-five to thirty-five years, and there are not a few on the rolls who have been working uninterruptedly for the Government for forty-five or fifty years. Many of these old clerks have been holding salaried positions for a great many years, but the great majority are middle-class, where the salaries range from \$1,000 to \$1,400. With advancing years they lose in efficiency and their retention on the pay rolls in important positions is an injustice to younger and better clerks, who are doing a greater amount of work for less money. Heads of departments cannot nerve themselves to discharge these veteran clerks, and so they drag on year after year, lumbering the service.

Officials of the quartermaster general's office of the War Department say that those who desire to avail themselves of the Government's order to transport Christmas packages to the American soldiers at Honolulu and Manila should address the quartermaster general, Washington, D. C., for instructions. The department desires to regulate and control the number, size and contents of the packages so far as possible, and will not undertake to pay ocean freight upon everything that may be sent.

Exportation of wire nails from the United States has increased fifteen fold during the last ten years, going from 1,547,000 pounds in 1888 to 22,894,000 pounds during the fiscal year 1898. This product of American workmen goes to every grand division of the globe and practically every country. Ten years ago the price per pound was 10 cents. To-day it is 2 cents. Thus, the 1,547,000 pounds exported in 1888 brought \$155,000, while the 22,894,000 pounds exported during the last fiscal year yielded only \$458,000.

Speaker Reed is dead set against keeping Congress in session any longer than is absolutely necessary. His influence may, therefore, be counted upon to be thrown against a special session. He can practically control the committees in a short session and keep matters back which he does not wish to have acted on. In a long session this is more difficult and there is constant danger of the House breaking away from him. This was done two or three times last spring and summer.

The Commissioner of the Currency holds that he cannot issue a charter to a national bank in the Hawaiian Islands. This will be a severe disappointment to several ambitious politicians in Washington, who have been planning for months to secure the first charter for a national bank at Honolulu. The same crowd is after national bank charters in Porto Rico and Manila. It is believed that Congress will have to give specific authorization before the Comptroller can issue charters in any of these places.

The clerks of the Supreme Court are in receipt of a large number of letters from lawyers in all parts of the country inquiring of him when the Supreme Court will issue rules and regulations for the government of courts in the enforcement of the bankruptcy law. Having no definite information on the subject, Major McKenney is obliged to write non-committal replies to the effect that the court has not as yet promulgated the rules and regulations.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee has written a very complimentary letter concerning the work of the Young Men's Christian Association among the soldiers in Florida and has requested that their representatives may be authorized to accompany his army to Cuba and prepare for even more extensive work.

The United States will have to take charge of the postal system in Cuba as soon as the Spaniards evacuate, for the Cubans have no governmental organization of any sort and chaos would result at once if this action were not taken.

Up to date 2,000 claims for pensions have been filed by soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of the war with Spain. Seventy were for victims of the Maine.

For lack of something else to talk about politicians in Washington are discussing the probabilities of an extra session of Congress after the 4th of next March.